

UNITED BENEFICE MESSENGER
FOR
ST. ANDREW'S, ST. MARY MAGDALEN'S
& ST. PETER'S CHURCHES



SEPTEMBER 2021

***UNITED BENEFICE Of St. ANDREW'S,
St. MARY MAGDALEN'S, & St. PETER'S, ACCRINGTON,
with St. JAMES', CHURCH KIRK***

VICAR

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***BENEFICE SERVICES***

***St. Andrew's Eucharist***

***Sunday – 9.30 am & Thursday – 10.30 am***

***St. Peter's Mass***

***Sunday – 2.00 pm & Tuesday – 7.00 pm***

***St. Mary Magdalen's Mass***

***Sunday – 11.00 am & Friday 10.00 am***

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Dear Friends

Now that summer is drawing to a close, we are beginning to think about things coming back to life after the holidays. As our schools return, please do keep them in your prayers, particularly those who are starting in a new environment for the first time, whether in Reception classes at Primary School, or Year 7 at High School, as well as those entering Sixth Form.

As life gets more hectic, we can forget that in our Churches too, life begins to get more busy, as we look forward to a programme of events to take us into the Autumn. We have our Benefice Barbecue to look forward to at Fr Jordan's house on 25 September, as well as Harvest Festivals across the three parishes, giving thanks to God for the good things he has given to us, and seeking to share that goodness with those less fortunate than ourselves.

Please see the advertisements elsewhere for our Harvest Services, and please do support them, offering gifts where you are able for those in our community who are in the greatest of need. Together with our schools, we will be supporting the Food Bank, Maundy, and Crossroads across our three parishes.

One of the Marks of Mission is that of 'Responding to human need by loving service'. Harvest Thanksgiving gives us an opportunity to demonstrate this mark in a fairly easy way. On the whole, we are able to live relatively comfortable lives, but as we do so, we see time and time again those who are not fortunate enough to be able to enjoy the same good things we do. Our Christian faith calls us to care for them, and to look after them as if they are Christ himself.

In the Gospel Jesus reminds us that whatever we do for the least of our brothers and sisters, we do for Jesus himself. When we offer that love and care for those in need, it is as if we are tending to Jesus in his own hour of need. Let us be diligent in our exercise of charitable works, and let our generosity shown at Harvest Festival overflow into the rest of our daily lives, for when it does, then we are being faithful in establishing a glimpse of the kingdom of God here on earth.

With my love and prayers

Fr David

Prayer Intentions for September

Wed 1	<i>Feria of Week 22</i>	Archdeacon Mark
Thurs 2	<i>Feria of Week 22</i>	Hyndburn Council
Fri 3	St Gregory the Great	Teachers
Sat 4	<i>Feria of Week 22</i>	Our Schools
Sun 5	23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	The Parish and the People of God
Mon 6	<i>Feria of Week 23</i>	Those who are homeless
Tue 7	<i>Feria of Week 23</i>	The unity of the Church
Wed 8	Birthday of the Blessed Virgin Mary	The Mothers' Union
Thur 9	<i>Feria of Week 23</i>	Those who are sick
Fri 10	<i>Feria of Week 23</i>	The Mayor of Hyndburn
Sat 11	<i>Feria of Week 23</i>	Doctors in our parishes
Sun 12	24th Sunday in Ordinary Time	The Parish and the People of God
Mon 13	St John Chrysostom	Those who preach
Tue 14	The Exaltation of the Holy Cross	The Society of the Holy Cross
Wed 15	Our Lady of Sorrows	Those who mourn
Thur 16	Ss Cornelius and Cyprian	The Archbishop of Canterbury
Fri 17	<i>Feria of Week 24</i>	Our ecumenical partners
Sat 18	<i>Feria of Week 24</i>	Those suffering war or violence
Sun 19	25th Sunday in Ordinary Time	The Parish and the People of God
Mon 20	The Korean Martyrs	Those persecuted for their faith
Tue 21	St Matthew	Missionaries
Wed 22	<i>Feria of Week 25</i>	Royal Blackburn Hospital
Thur 23	St Pius of Pietrelcina	Businesses in our parishes
Fri 24	Our Lady of Walsingham	The Shrine at Walsingham
Sat 25	<i>Feria of Week 25</i>	The Faithful Departed (requiem)
Sun 26	26th Sunday in Ordinary Time	The Parish and the People of God
Mon 27	St Vincent de Paul	HM Government
Tue 28	<i>Feria of Week 26</i>	Accrington Deanery
Wed 29	Ss Michael, Gabriel and Raphael	The Royal Mail
Thur 30	St Jerome	Our Bishops

Dear friends,

It is a great joy to be writing for the first time in our new Benefice wide newsletter. I hope that you will find it a good way to get the monthly news in the parishes in which we live and worship together.

It is a very special time for us all at the moment. We are welcoming lots of candidates for the Holy Sacrament of Baptism across all of our parishes. Baptism is the first step on our journey with our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. It marks a first response to the love of God, which is freely offered to all. As the candidates come forward for Baptism it is of huge importance that we, as a Christian community, surround them with love and prayers.

It is also a useful opportunity to remember our own Baptisms, and what that means for us now as we mature in our Christian faith. Perhaps an easy way to reflect on this, is using the image of water. Water is used as a sign of our cleansing of sin during the service itself, but this is not the only time we should be thinking about it. The oil marked onto the candidate's forehead, our foreheads, is a permanent sign of our baptism. Next time it rains (you won't have to wait long I suspect) give thanks for the blessing of life, and of your relationship with Jesus Christ.

It will be a great joy for Becky and I to welcome you to St Mary Magdalene's vicarage on 25th September for a BBQ – further details to follow! Let us rejoice together that we are free to meet in this way and pray this month for those who are less fortunate than ourselves, especially for the people of Afghanistan.

Let us hope for some nice weather, but if things turn a little....
Lancashire.... Then remember that we are blessed in that water, and in our Baptism every single day.

With every blessing,
Fr Jordan

St. Andrew's Church Rota

DATE	READER	INTERCESSIONS	SIDES / FIRE WARDEN
05/09/2021	MURIEL	JENNIFER	JENNIFER / PAT
12/09/2021	JANET	JASON	ELAINE/SUSAN
19/09/2021	ELAINE	CHRISTINE	MURIEL
26/09/2021	JOHN	LESLEY	BARBARA / EMMA
03/10/2021	MURIEL	JENNIFER	JENNIFER / PAT
10/10/2021	JANET	JASON	ELAINE/SUSAN
17/10/2021	ELAINE	CHRISTINE	MURIEL
24/10/2021	JOHN	LESLEY	BARBARA / EMMA
31/10/2021	MURIEL	JENNIFER	JENNIFER / PAT

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YEAR'S MIND - SEPTEMBER **St. Peter's and St. James' Church Kirk**

2nd Karen Smalley	17th Jenny Shanley
3rd Major and Mrs. H. C. Hunt	18th John Cronin
4th William Henry Barnes	19th Sidney Kirkham
George McNamara	Joan Lyon
William Rigby	21st Heather Mary Nelsen
6th Ronald Stevenson	22nd Charles Alderton
8th Alan Roscow	Elsie Salt
9th Eunice Whittaker	26th Morritt Bullock
12th Rose Hoggard	Edna Townley
Alistair Cooper	27th Vivienne Mary Lynch
Stephen Wright	28th George F. Nuttall
13th Janet Louise Bowker	Mary Ellen Thompson
John Dixon	30th Doris Hartley
15th Henry Andrew	

Blackburn Diocese Vision Prayer

*Heavenly Father, we embrace your call to make disciples, to be witnesses
and to grow leaders. Give us eyes to see your vision, ears
to hear the prompting of your Spirit and courage to follow in the
footsteps of your Son, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.*

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

25 th September	Benefice Barbecue St. Mary Magdalen's Vicarage 1pm to 3pm
26 th September	Harvest Festival at St. Andrew's.
3 rd October	Harvest Festival with Mass at St. Peter's at 2 pm followed by Family Fun Afternoon.
17 th October	Harvest Festival at St. Mary Magdalen's followed by Jacob's Join in Church.
27 th November	St. Mary Magdalen's Fair.
7 th December	Confirmation Service - 7 pm at St. Peter's

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## **End of an Era**

Those of us who worship at St Peter's cannot fail to be aware of the vast amount of time and effort that Peter Crook has given to the church over many years. Not only as a Server, but as Church Warden, Treasurer of the PCC, School Governor, organiser of the 100 Club and many social events plus very importantly editor and printer of the Parish Magazine. This last job he has apparently undertaken for the last 30+ years, ensuring that copies were available in church but were also sent far and wide across the country. One has to wonder if he had time for anything else? With changing times and a different schedule for the magazine I and several others felt it only fair his efforts were recognised in print in the place which has been so important to him for such a long time. So, for your work listed here plus the way in which you kept the church services running throughout the pandemic (we enjoyed the Morning Prayer on alternate Sundays) please know that the congregation at St Peter's is extremely grateful to you for all your efforts and will continue to support you in the future.

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ST. MARY MAGDALEN'S FAIR

Plans are afoot!!

- Date:** Saturday 27 November 2021
Time: 10am – 1pm
Place: School or church
Stalls: Bric-a-brac, Tombola, 50p Lucky Dip, Toiletries/Jewellery, Chocolate
tombola, Games, Café etc
Ideas: Have you any? Something new? Do let the Wardens or PCC know
Help: Please do offer. It's all hands on deck!
Why: Social get-together.
We are in much need of the income!!
To do: Collect items for stalls
Remember: TEAMWORK!!! This is usually a terrific exercise in pulling
together to work for the upkeep of our church. Let's do it again!

ST MARY MAGDALEN'S BROWNIE NEWS

It has been a long time since we have been able to meet face to face but hope to be able to resume our meetings in St Mary Magdalen's School on Wednesday, September 15th.

We hope all the girls will feel able to return but also look forward to welcoming new members. We have already received two enquiries from girls who wish to join us which is encouraging.

Any girls between the ages of 7 and 10 will be most welcome.

If anyone would like any further information please do not hesitate to contact
Linda – 07968 814140.

The Brownie Leaders

How are your 'little grey cells' doing?

It's time to dust them off and give them a few exercises. Lorna is preparing her Annual Quiz and copies will be on sale in October. All proceeds go to parish funds.

St Andrew's, Accrington HARVEST FESTIVAL

SUNDAY 26 SEPTEMBER 2021

Family Eucharist at 9.30 am

followed by bacon sandwiches!

If you are able, please bring a gift for
Crossroads to present
during the service





St Peter's **Harvest** FESTIVAL

Sunday 3 October 2021
at St Peter's, Accrington

Family-friendly Mass at 2.00 pm
followed by food and games
in the Churchyard (weather-permitting)
or in the Parish Room upstairs if wet!

All welcome!

If you are able, please bring a gift of something
for the Accrington Food Bank
to present during the service

St Mary Magdalen's, Accrington HARVEST FESTIVAL

Sunday 17 October 2021

Festival Mass at 11.00 am

followed by a Jacob's Join in Church

All Welcome

*Please bring a gift of something for
St Mary Magdalen's Food Store
or the Accrington Food Bank
to present during the service
if you are able*





St Andrew's Accrington Patronal Festival

**Tuesday 30 November 2021
Sung Eucharist at 7.00 pm**

followed by refreshments in church

All welcome!